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What is claimed is:

1. A hand protection device for protecting a wearer's hand from injury, comprising: a gripping portion and a flange portion,

said gripping portion having first and second gripping surfaces, said first gripping surface providing a surface for engaging the wearer's hand, said second gripping surface providing a surface to engage objects grasped within the wearer's protected hand,

said flange portion extending substantially normal to the gripping portion and covering the upper extremity of the wearer's hand, said flange portion being substantially resistant to accidental penetration by sharp implements.

2. The hand protection device of claim 1, wherein

the gripping surface comprises a textured surface configuration to enhance the gripping characteristic of the gripping surface.

3. The hand protection device of claim 1, wherein

the gripping surface further comprises one or more finger loops in which to secure one or more of the wearer's fingers while gripping the device.

4. The hand protection device of claim 1, wherein

the gripping surface further comprises one or more finger pockets in which to secure one or more of the wearer's fingers while gripping the device.

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5. The hand protection device of claim 1, wherein

the flange portion comprises a material that is substantially resistant to penetration by sharp implements.

6. A hand protection device for protecting a wearer's hand from injury, comprising: a means for gripping the device and a flange portion,

said flange portion extending substantially normal to the gripping means and covering the upper extremity of the wearer's hand, said flange portion being substantially resistant to accidental penetration by sharp implements.

- 7. The hand protection device of claim 6, wherein the gripping means comprises one or more finger loops attached to the flange portion.
- 8. The hand protection device of claim 6, wherein the gripping means comprises a textured surface extending substantially normal from the flange portion, said textured surface providing a gripping surface for the wearer's hand.
- 9. The hand protection device of claim 6, wherein the gripping means comprises one or more finger pockets in a gripping surface that extends substantially normal from the flange portion.

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10. The hand protection device of claim 6, wherein

the gripping means comprise one or more finger loops on a gripping surface that extends substantially normal from the flange portion.